



# HACKETT CATHOLIC PREP

Kalamazoo, Michigan

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**PRINCIPAL**

Start Date: July 2023

[csgk.org](http://csgk.org)



Carney  
Sandoe  
& ASSOCIATES



## MISSION

*Hackett Catholic Prep is committed to preparing our students for lifelong success by promoting and developing faith, character, and academic achievement in a supportive and challenging Catholic faith-based environment.*

## OVERVIEW

Hackett Catholic Prep is a coeducational high school with a valued Catholic tradition and a challenging academic standard. Through an unparalleled educational experience, Hackett works to develop hearts and minds through Gospel values, character formation, and Catholic faith experiences in an environment that nurtures life-long learning, commitment, and service to the church and civic community.

For more than half a century, Hackett Catholic Prep has served with distinction as the flagship high school within the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo system. Combining a warm and inspiring environment with outstanding academics and a rich array of extracurricular pursuits, Hackett enrolls 210 students in grades 9-12, sending its graduates to some of the most prominent colleges and universities in the country. In 2021, over \$7 million in scholarships and grants were offered to Hackett Catholic graduates. This outstanding school is seeking a collaborative, dynamic, faith-filled Principal to start on July 1, 2023.

## THE SCHOOL

The idea for Hackett began when its predecessor, St. Augustine High School, had to turn away 200 students due to lack of space in 1963. A capital campaign was launched and more than \$1.5 million was raised in just over a year so that the new high school could be built, opened, and dedicated on October 4, 1964. Named after Monsignor John R. Hackett, the longtime Pastor of St. Augustine Cathedral who served from 1923 to 1953, the school was originally all-boys but became coed in 1972.



## FAST FACTS

Enrollment: 210

Students of color: 19%

Total faculty: 24 teachers, 5 administrators

Faculty of color: 5%

Faculty with advanced degrees: 62%

Student/teacher ratio: 10:1

Total tuition assistance awarded: \$142,750

Students receiving tuition assistance: 31%



Hackett Catholic Prep has a service area encompassing more than 15 school districts, providing a diverse background for the student body. Hackett is part of the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo, supported by the parishes of St. Ambrose (Parchment), St. Ann (Augusta), St. Augustine (Kalamazoo), St. Catherine of Sienna (Portage), St. Joseph (Kalamazoo), St. Mary (Kalamazoo), St. Monica (Kalamazoo), and St. Thomas-More (Kalamazoo). The school is accredited by the Michigan Non-Public Schools Accreditation Association.

Watch [this video](#) to learn more about how Hackett is living its mission to prepare students for lifelong success.

## ACADEMICS

Hackett's academic program is rigorous and deep. All students complete courses in theology, English, social science, mathematics, science, fine arts, world languages, physical education and health, business, and electives. Honors and Advanced Placement options are available.

To fully support its students, the school delivers a comprehensive counseling program that promotes student success in academics, personal/social development, and post-secondary schooling. Hackett Catholic Prep's Guidance Department focuses its skills, time, and energy on direct and indirect services to students, ensuring they receive the support and care they need to be successful in school and in life.

At the end of four years, a Hackett Catholic Prep graduate is committed to growing in faith; seeks to learn and grow in all areas of life; demonstrates family spirit and builds community; is committed to service, justice, and peace; and is a person with skills for building the future.

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION

In the past five years, Hackett Catholic Prep graduates have matriculated to the following colleges and universities:

Adrian College  
Albion College  
Aquinas College  
Benedictine University  
Butler University  
Case Western  
Catholic University of America  
Central Michigan University  
Columbia University  
DePaul University  
DePauw University  
Ferris State University  
Franciscan University -  
Steubenville  
Grand Valley State University  
Hillsdale College  
Holy Cross College  
Hope College  
Indiana University  
Kalamazoo College  
Kalamazoo Valley Community  
College  
Lake Superior State University  
Loyola University - Chicago  
Marquette University  
Michigan State University  
Michigan Tech  
Northern Michigan University  
Northwood University  
Ohio State University  
Olivet College  
Purdue University  
St. Louis University  
St. Mary's College - Notre Dame  
University of Dayton  
University of Detroit Mercy  
University of Michigan  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pittsburg  
Valparaiso University  
Western Michigan University  
Xavier University



## STUDENT LIFE

Hackett Catholic Prep values an active and involved student community. The school's vast activities program gives students opportunities to meet new friends, accept new challenges, and have a great year by getting involved. Most activities are open to all students on a volunteer or sign-up basis. Each organization provides countless opportunities for social and intellectual growth and enhances the Hackett Catholic Prep experience. Clubs and organizations include Agnus Dei, jazz band, earth club, Latin club, liturgical choir, National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, student council, theater, and more.

Students are required to complete service hours each year. Students identify areas of interest for service formation and work serving at home, in their parish, at school, and in the community. Throughout the four years at the school, a class of students completes over 8,900 hours of community service on average.

Rich in tradition, the Hackett Catholic Prep Athletic Department provides the student-athletes an opportunity for success both in the classroom and on the playing field. With many state-recognized teams as well as exceptional academic honors, Hackett continues to build on its strong tradition of excellence. Over the past five years the school has won seven state and nine regional championships. Hackett is a member of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SAC) and the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). Teams include cross country, football, golf, soccer, tennis, volleyball, basketball, bowling, baseball, lacrosse, softball, and track.





## KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Kalamazoo is a diverse and family-friendly college town rich with creative culture. Home to Western Michigan University's campus, Kalamazoo is a mid-sized city that packs both a small-town and big-city punch—offering cook offs and farmers markets, as well as fine dining and a vibrant arts scene. With everything this city has to offer, it's no wonder that in 2021 Kalamazoo was named the “**Coollest City**” with the lowest cost of living in the US. Education is highly valued in Kalamazoo with a public university (Western Michigan), a private college (Kalamazoo College), and a community college (Kalamazoo Valley).

Downtown Kalamazoo is vibrant and lively with many boutiques, unique restaurants, holiday celebrations, food trucks, and festivals. The local arts scene is thriving. Art lovers can visit the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts to view exhibitions or take advantage of the art classes and programs the museum offers. The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo hosts Art Hop, a free event displaying the work of local artists all around downtown, once a month. Theater lovers will find plenty to enjoy at The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre, which features local and youth performances, and Miller Auditorium, which hosts touring Broadway shows.

From laid back breweries and a lake life mantra to carefully curated shops and dining, the Portage and Texas Township areas of Kalamazoo County offer their own special experiences. Adjacent to the City of Kalamazoo (and a stone's throw from Hackett), Portage is a gorgeous city known for its extensive historical park network. Over 50 miles of bikeways and trails run through the city to promote the joy of nature, connect residents with shopping destinations and cultural resources, and bring neighbors and neighborhoods together.





Hiking trails and green space throughout the Kalamazoo area, including Asylum Lake Preserve (owned by Western Michigan University) and Portage Creek Bicentennial Park, provide recreation opportunities for nature lovers. Shoppers can explore the Kalamazoo Mall, the nation's first outdoor pedestrian mall, or The Crossroads in nearby Portage. It is also impossible to talk about what the city has to offer without mentioning its craft breweries. Bell's Brewery and Eccentric Cafe is a popular hangout. Add live music, parades, and other community events, and you can see why many visit—and live—in this dynamic city.

Kalamazoo is the future home of REVERB by Hard Rock™ Kalamazoo, an exciting hotel concept that will be designed as an energetic hub for connection, creation, and inspiration among music fans, locals, and travelers. Expected to be built on the renowned Gibson Mandolin-Guitar Manufacturing Company site, the new project will offer amenities including a gym, a bar, a brewery/restaurant, banquet facility, intimate auditorium, a museum, and a "signing room" where many historic artists signed contracts with Gibson. Additionally, the site will offer programming highlighting local music, food, and entertainment.

The Kalamazoo Metro bus system runs throughout the city and surrounding townships. Located at the edge of the city, the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek International Airport has direct flights to major Midwestern cities, including Detroit, Chicago, and St. Louis. An Amtrak station in downtown Kalamazoo allows residents to hop on a train and be in Chicago in less than three hours.





## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Hackett Catholic Prep has long been appreciated for the quality of the education it provides, its vibrant Catholic identity, and the warm and caring learning environment it offers. It enjoys a strong legacy of support from the many alumni and families whose lives have been touched and enhanced by the school.

For Hackett's next Principal, the Board of Directors and Diocese seek a dynamic and relational educational leader who can leverage the school's many assets and enable Hackett to fulfill its vital mission and capitalize on its institutional potential even more powerfully.

This is a classic "take it to the next level" leadership opportunity, one that presents a real inflection point for growth and transformation. The next Principal should be an enterprising servant leader who can cast an inspiring vision for the future and bring an energetic tone to daily school life, while addressing the following challenges and opportunities.

West Michigan is a very competitive educational landscape, and the next Principal will need to be an outstanding communicator who can tell the Hackett story authentically and persuasively to help position Hackett as the region's high school of choice.

Within the school, the next Principal will have the opportunity to improve the effectiveness and productivity of the school's dedicated faculty and staff by clarifying organizational structure and defining roles and responsibilities more precisely.

The Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo is a very distinctive coalition of schools including two K-8 schools, St. Monica School and St. Augustine Cathedral School, along with Hackett at the high school level. The next Principal at Hackett will have much to gain in areas such as admissions and faculty professional development by bringing a robust and joyous spirit of collaboration to relationships with the member schools, the diocese, and the local advisory councils.





## DESIRED QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Hackett Catholic Prep seeks a strong, decisive, mission-driven leader who as Principal will define a clear, unifying, and compelling path forward toward the school's next stages of growth and development. The ideal Principal will be a practicing Catholic with a strong spiritual and moral compass who also exemplifies core Catholic values in his or her daily life and practice.

A talented educator with extensive experience in the classroom who knows how to attract, retain, evaluate, motivate a high performing faculty, and will be committed to ensuring that best practices in student-centered learning are embraced; and that teachers receive the ongoing professional development they need to be at their best.

A team player who communicates thoughtfully and listens well; an approachable "people person" who strives to build a sense of community and common cause.

Someone who supports academic excellence but is also an advocate for all students, dedicated to developing the whole person and shaping good people.





## TO APPLY

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A statement of educational philosophy and practice;
- A completed Candidate Questionnaire (to be supplied by the consultants) to:

**Bill Christ**

Senior Consultant

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